



Town of Arlington, Massachusetts
730 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington, MA 02476
Phone: 781-316-3000

webmaster@town.arlington.ma.us

01/09/2014 Minutes

Arlington Master Plan Advisory Committee

Central School, Lower Level - 7:00PM

Minutes: January 9, 2014

Approved: February 6, 2014

Members present: Ann LeRoyer, Charles Kalaskas, Sheri Baron, Bob Radochia, Harris Band, Carol Svenson, Joe Barr

Members absent: Monica Tibbits-Nutt, Eric Bourassa, Greg Bowe, Pam Heidell

Also present: Christine Scypinski (ARB); Joe Curro (BoS); Carol Kowalski, Laura Wiener, Ted Fields, and Joey Glushko of the Planning Dept.

The meeting was called to order at 7:08 pm.

The minutes of December 5, 2013 were approved as amended. The minutes of December 16, 2013 (Joint meeting with the ARB) were approved as amended.

The purpose of this meeting was to discuss possibilities for outreach with respect to the Working Papers, which will be presented and discussed monthly from January through May. The schedule for review/discussion/comment period for these papers is very tight. Consultant Judi Barrett has expressed preference for comments to be submitted on copies of the individual working paper pages, as has been done for the baseline report material.

How best to get the material out to the public for their review and feedback? Some of the suggestions bandied around included precinct meetings, survey monkey questionnaire on each working paper, reaching out specifically to Town Meeting Members, creation of graphic content for display at libraries and Town Hall lobby during Town Meeting time. Charlie Kalaskas questioned whether the survey questions should go through the committee first; it was recognized that time limitations and Open Meeting Law requirements discouraged this kind of review; Planning Dept. staff would develop questions after review of each set of working papers was delivered by the consultant.

Action: Joey Glushko will contact Library administration and Town Hall leadership regarding availability of areas for presentation/display material.

Many discussants acknowledged the importance of understanding "zoning" – what it is, what it does not do, and how it impacts "land use." It was acknowledged, too, that most residents do not realize what "zoning" does, and that a "primer" handout or presentation would be beneficial – not just for the "Land Use Working Paper" topic, but also for future Zoning Bylaw changes that are contemplated as a result of the Master Plan development.

Action: Planning Director Carol Kowalski will work with Building Inspector Mike Byrne on a "primer" on zoning.

Among the activities yet to be scheduled during winter and spring (in addition to the working papers reviews and discussions) are these actions:

Action: the High School outreach program

Action: outreach to businesses

Action: visual preference survey

The meeting adjourned at 9 PM.

Minutes submitted by Joey Glushko